

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An electrically addressable device for recording, addressing and reading of data, includes a storage array unit having multiple layers of data storage medium. An electrical marking device is disposed on at least one of the layers of storage medium of the storage array unit to provide a display indicating any pre-selected information, such as the nature of the content of the data stored on the storage array unit. The electrical marking device may comprise at least one layer functioning as a display layer that is partially visually altered to provide a display of information, such as to display the subject matter and name of the content of the data and the amount of memory storage that has been used. The display layer comprises a plurality of information storage cells, each representing the value of at least one data bit, wherein the visual appearance of each of the information storage cell is varied depending on the value of the data bit.

The invention also includes a method for marking the content of an electrically addressable device used for recording, addressing and reading data and having a storage array unit with multiple layers of data storage medium. The method comprises storing data on an outermost layer representative of the content of the data to provide a display indicating pre-selected information, such as the nature of the content of the data stored on the storage array unit.